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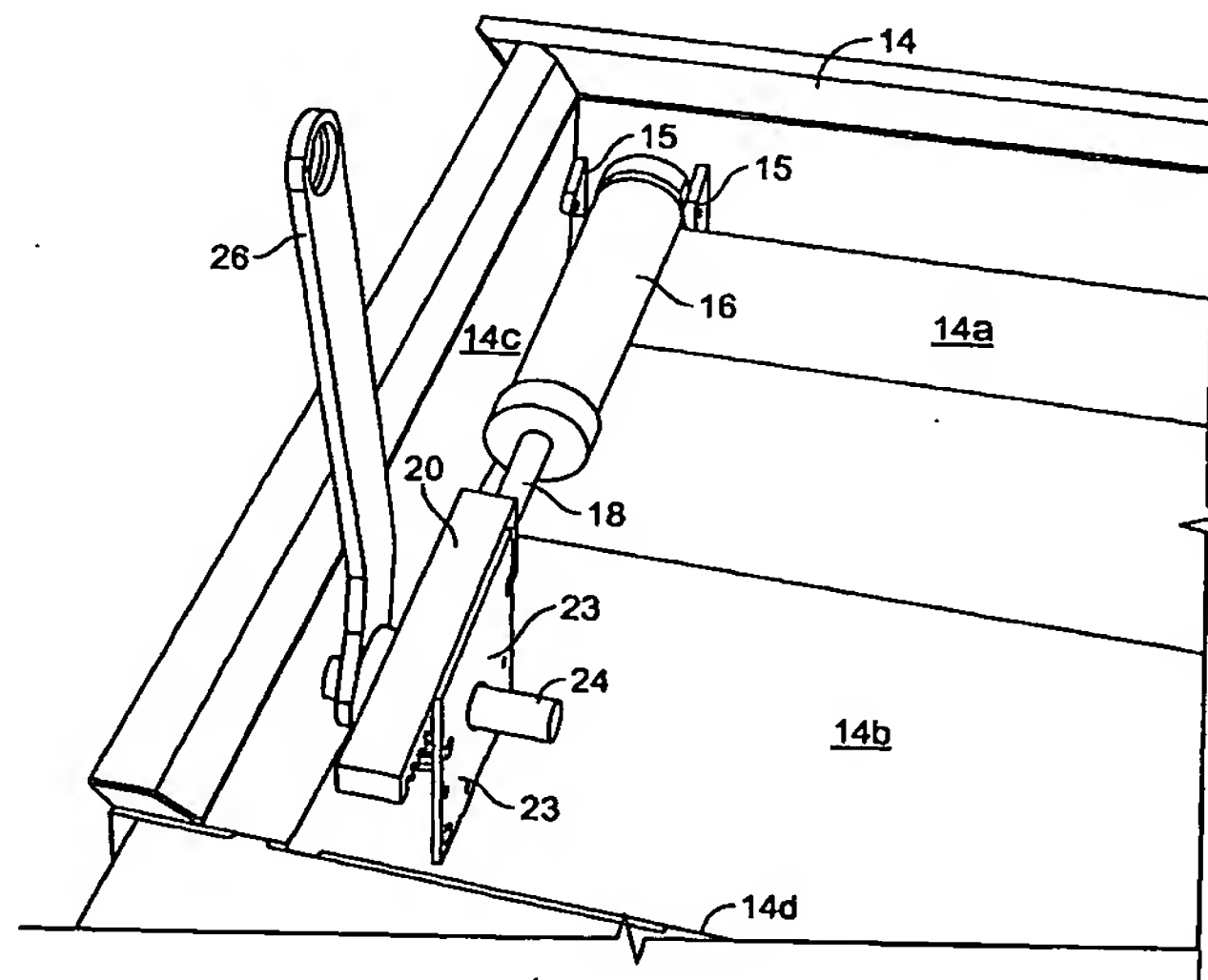
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**Declaration under Rule 4.17:**

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[Continued on next page]

(54) Title: DRIVE APPARATUS FOR A MOBILITY ACCESS DEVICE



(57) Abstract: A linear drive system for reversibly operating a wheelchair ramp or other mobility access device is provided. The drive system for the mobility access device includes an actuator and a drive apparatus coupled thereto for moving the access device or portion thereof. The actuator, which may be a hydraulic cylinder, electric actuator or the like, has a linearly moving arm that cooperates with the drive apparatus including a gear rack and a spur gear. The gear rack is coupled to the moving arm and mates with the spur gear that rotates on a shaft in response to the linear movement of the moving arm. A drive link is coupled with the spur gear for pivoting about the shaft to deploy and stow the access device.

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